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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa

by

The Court Administrator of the Judicial Department

Court Administrator

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May 12, 1982

TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 685.8, The Code, I submit herewith the 1981 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the various judicial officers and clerks of the Iowa district court for their cooperation in reporting judicial statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
Court Administrator

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1981, there were 1,733 filings (1,175 civil, 558 criminal) and 1,716 dispositions (1,064 civil, 652 criminal); filings and dispositions increased 7.0 and 13.6 percent, respectively, from 1980.

2. Since 1971, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 162.6 percent (660 to 1,733) or an average of 16.3 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge jumped 69.9 percent (73 to 124). [Table 11]

3. There were 884 formal dispositions (550 civil, 334 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1981 - an increase of 217 dispositions or 32.5 percent over 1980. By formal opinion, the Supreme Court disposed of 383 cases (212 civil, 171 criminal); the Court of Appeals handled 501 cases (338 civil, 163 criminal). The number of criminal cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts rose 87.6 percent (178 to 334) over 1980 figures. There were 832 appellate cases (514 civil, 318 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court. [Tables 3 and 9]

4. In 1981, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 37.2 percent (203 of 546) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases - the largest single category of dispositions. The number of rulings in domestic relations cases increased 42.0 percent (143 to 203) from 1980 to 1981. [Tables 3 and 9]

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided about five to five and one-half months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was slightly over nine months. However, elapse time has increased in recent months; regular civil cases submitted to the Supreme Court in January, 1982, were made ready on or before May, 1981 - a delay of eight months. [Table 5]

6. During 1981, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts rose 6.8 percent (1,168 to 1,247). The number of cases ready for disposition increased 26.7 percent (311 to 394). [Tables 4 and 8]

7. Of the 877 formal appellate decisions reviewing lower court rulings (four attorney disciplinary and three certification of law cases excluded) 591 or 67.4 percent affirmed the district court, 166 or 18.9 percent reversed, and 120 or 13.7 percent of the Court opinions were a combination of the two. There were 153 applications to the Supreme Court for further review of a Court of Appeals decision; the Court granted further review in 16 cases while denying application for further review in 119 other instances. The Supreme Court vacated the judgment of the Court of Appeals in 12 of the 13 cases reviewed in 1981.

Trial Court

1. In the 25-year period since 1956, the first year trial court statistics were collected and analyzed at the state level, the number of civil filings escalated 154.0 percent (22,922 to 58,225) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 497.8 percent (6,178 to 36,932); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 140.9 percent (416 to 1,002). [Appendix F] Iowa's population grew 7.0 percent (2,722,375 to 2,913,808) during this period.

2. Since 1956, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 93.1 percent (394 to 761). [Appendix H]

3. Since 1956, the number of juvenile petitions soared 246.6 percent (1,607 to 5,570); however, since the 1978 revision of the juvenile justice code, the number of petitions filed in juvenile matters has plummeted 9.9 percent (6,179 to 5,570). The number of probate cases opened rose 49.9 percent (16,137 to 24,192) since 1956. [Appendix F]

4. Since the 1977 legislative freeze on district judgeships, civil filings increased 34.4 percent (43,324 to 58,225); criminal filings climbed 24.8 percent (28,795 to 36,932). Overall, civil/criminal filings rose 31.9 percent (72,119 to 95,157) in the four-year period. Application of the district judgeship formula entitles Iowa to 123 judgeships - an increase of 28 over the 95 district court judges authorized December 31, 1981. The 1977 freeze was modified in 1981 to permit the appointment of three additional district judges increasing the total to 95. [Appendix F]

5. Since the first calendar year after unification of the district court (1974), the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 51.4 percent (484,651 to 733,939) while the number of small claims petitions grew 10.6 percent (68,021 to 75,259). However, the 1981 figures show a 6.6 percent drop in the number of simple misdemeanor and scheduled violations and an 8.5 percent decline in the number of small claims filed in the district court from the previous year. [Appendix G]

6. In 1981, only 1,351 of the 273,455 simple misdemeanors (0.5 percent) and 941 of the 26,112 small claims (3.6 percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. [Tables 4 and 5]

7. In 1981, dissolutions and modifications (18,814), uniform support (9,283), and domestic abuse (108) filings accounted for 28,205 cases or 48.4 percent of all civil filings (58,225). Indictable misdemeanor cases involving OMVUI's comprised 14,346 of the 36,932 criminal filings or 38.8 percent of the total. If simple misdemeanor and small claim appeals were removed from these figures the percentage of domestic relations and OMVUI cases would total 49.2 and 40.3 percent, respectively. There were 8,164 felony filings in 1981 - down 658 cases or 7.5 percent from the 8,822 felony filings in 1980. [Tables 4 and 5].

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is comprised of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the Court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. Ninety-four persons have served on the Supreme Court since Iowa became a territory on July 12, 1838. Although the high Court was comprised of only three justices during the first 25 years, the general assembly increased the Court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload. Listed in order of judicial seniority on the Supreme Court, the present justices are: Clay LeGrand (Davenport), Harvey Uhlenhopp (Hampton), W. W. Reynoldson, Chief Justice (Osceola), K. David Harris (Jefferson), Mark McCormick (Des Moines), Robert G. Allbee (Des Moines), Arthur A. McGiverin (Ottumwa), Jerry Larson (Harlan), and Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City).

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of Supreme Court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962 Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission comprised of seven lay persons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The Supreme Court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the Commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the Commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, Supreme Court justices stand for retention at the general election. Justices appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; justices appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. Except for magistrates, the Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the Supreme Court to retire, discipline or remove any judge or justice. The Commission is comprised

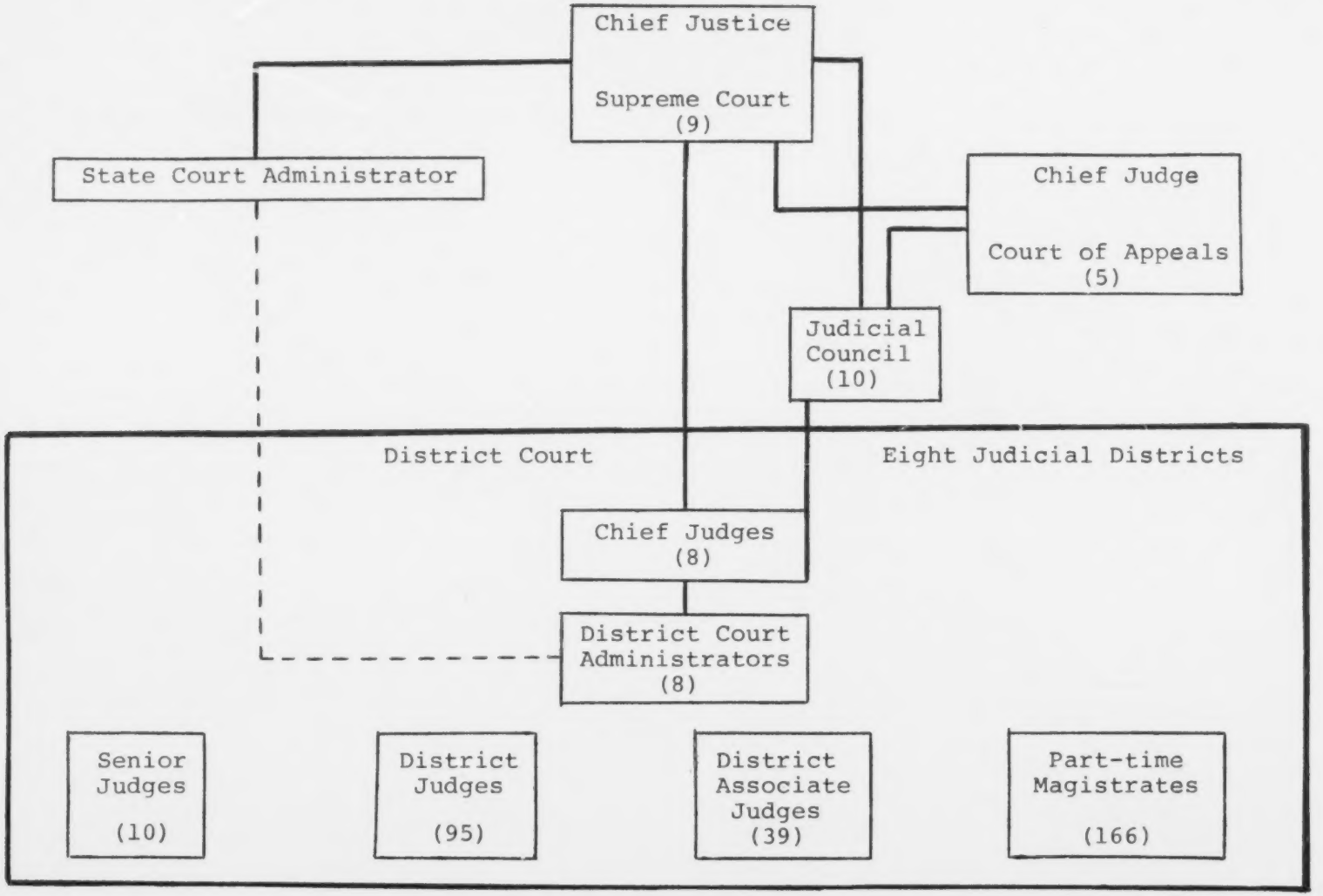
of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the Supreme Court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

The Supreme Court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The Court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The Court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline, and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the Supreme Court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the district court, the Iowa trial court. Except where the action involves an interest in real estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $1,000 or less, the Supreme Court may exercise discretionary review. In criminal cases where the state is the appellant or applicant, the Supreme Court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: 1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant, 2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 3) an order granting or denying a change of venue, and 4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the Supreme Court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: 1) an order suppressing or admitting evidence, 2) an order granting or denying a change of venue, 3) an order denying probation, 4) simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation convictions, and 5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the Supreme Court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the next page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member Court of Appeals. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the Supreme Court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme Court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the Court of Appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the Supreme Court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: 1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance or court or administrative rule; 2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a conflict with a published decision of the Court of Appeals

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
(January 1, 1982)



or Supreme Court; 3) substantial issues of first impression; 4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; 5) cases in which life imprisonment has been imposed; 6) lawyer discipline; and 7) substantial questions of enunciating or changing legal principles. The Rule also suggests summary disposition of certain cases by the Supreme Court and transfer to the Court of Appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the Supreme Court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the Supreme Court and the chief judge of the Court of Appeals, the chief judges of the district court comprise a Judicial Council. The Council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Assisting the Supreme Court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the court administrator, clerk of court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. Since 1967, each justice has been authorized to appoint a legal assistant to assist in research. In 1971, the legislature authorized the Supreme Court to appoint a court administrator. Serving at the pleasure of the Supreme Court, the court administrator and his staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on the judicial business at all levels, examining the state of the dockets in the district court and recommending the assignment of judges to courts in need of assistance, apportioning part-time judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the distict court judgeship formula, conducting judicial education programs, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling payroll and travel expenses for the judicial department, planning and budgeting for the Supreme Court and its administrative office, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees, and attending to such matters as the Supreme Court may direct. The court administrator serves as the executive secretary for the Judicial

Qualifications Commission and ex officio member of the Judicial Coordinating Committee; he or she is also a member of the Iowa Crime Commission, State Library Commission, and the State Records Commission.

The clerk of court is appointed by the Supreme Court to a four-year term. The clerk of Supreme Court also serves as the clerk of the Court of Appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the Court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, appendices and records and files and records every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination, and the election of attorney-members to the state and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the Supreme Court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the Supreme Court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners, and confirms as commissioners of the Court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. With the assistance of the Iowa State Bar Association, in 1973, the Court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The Court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from annual assessment imposed on attorneys. The Supreme Court also has provided that all Iowa lawyers and judges must complete a minimum of fifteen hours of continuing legal education each year. In 1975, a twelve-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education was appointed to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of the rule.

The Supreme Court is responsible for promulgating rules of appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile, and probate procedure. The Court also is authorized to prescribe rules of pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons. In exercising its rulemaking authority, the Supreme Court is assisted by several committees including: 1) the Supreme Court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure, 2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure, 3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure, and 4) the Probate Rules Committee. In developing rules for the hospitalization of the mentally ill, the Supreme Court has been assisted by the Iowa State Bar Association's Committee on Law and Behavioral Sciences.

Workload

During 1981, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 383 cases by written opinion - 208 civil, 171 criminal, and 4 disciplinary. [See Table 1.] There were 108 more decisions written by the justices of the Supreme Court in 1981 than in 1980. The 39 percent increase in the number of Supreme Court dispositions by written opinion is primarily attributable to the 320 percent rise (25 to 105) in the number of Supreme Court dispositions by unsigned per curiam opinion. There also was an 11.2 percent increase in the number of signed majority opinions.

	Signed Majority Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275
1979	265	25	290
1978	312	45	357
1977	285	89	374

As illustrated in Table 2, 93.5 percent of the cases (358 of 383) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the Supreme Court as a matter of right. There were 304 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 19 appeals from interlocutory rulings, 21 postconviction appeals, 4 attorney disciplinary actions, and three cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 25 cases - 15 cases appealed from the Court of Appeals, 9 original certiorari cases, and one small claim case.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned domestic relations (46), torts (33), contracts and trusts - estates - wills (29), and administrative law (23). Of the 171 criminal cases, 37 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 383 majority opinions during 1981, the nine Supreme Court justices registered 29 dissents and 7 special concurrences. Their opinions totaled 2,851 pages or 317 pages per judge on the double-spaced, legal sized "red line" used for official decisions. The average Supreme Court opinion was approximately 7 1/2 pages in length; in 1980 opinions averaged over nine pages. Over 93 percent of the rulings (357 of 383) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices deciding the case.

Cases filed before the Supreme Court rose from 1,620 (1980) to 1,733 (1981) - an increase of 7.0 percent. As noted in Table 11, the number of filings in the Supreme Court has mushroomed 162.6 percent (660 to 1,733) during the last decade. Civil filings have soared 212.5 percent (376 to 1,175) while criminal cases have nearly doubled (284 to 558) since 1971.

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned," and Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of January 1, 1980, and 1981 and 1982. While the number of cases "In Work" remained steady (857 to 853), the number of civil and criminal cases "Ready" for disposition increased 134.0 percent (100 to 234) during 1981. The total number of pending cases rose 13.2 percent (1,029 to 1,165).

As noted in Table 5, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to Supreme Court decision was 5.2 months in 1981 - a slight increase over the five-month processing time in 1980. The elapse time for regular civil cases was slightly higher. While delay in the Court increased somewhat in 1981, disposition time did not compare with the situation that existed in 1976, before the Court of Appeals was established, when the average non-priority civil case took over 20 months to be decided after it was ready.

An examination of the direction of the Supreme Court decisions during 1981, indicates that 67 percent of the lower court rulings were affirmed by the Court, 23 percent were reversed, and 10 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" Supreme Court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a lower court ruling.) The four attorney disciplinary decisions and the three questions of law certified to the Supreme Court by the federal district court were not included in the disposition direction computation. As noted in the statistics below, the proportion of lower court rulings affirmed by the Supreme Court has increased to the level that existed before the Court of Appeals was established. In 1981, the Supreme Court significantly increased the number of formal dispositions and decided a large volume of less complex cases via per curiam opinion.

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Affirmed	65	68	64	63	57	53	67
Reversed	26	23	30	27	33	33	23
Mixed	6	9	6	10	10	14	10

Nearly 58 percent of the cases (221/383) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of seven metropolitan counties. Over 22 percent of the cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	85	22.2
Black Hawk	39	10.2
Scott	24	6.3
Linn	22	5.7
Woodbury	17	4.4
Johnson	12	3.1
Pottawattamie	11	2.9
Story	11	2.9
TOTAL	221	57.7

In addition to the 383 Supreme Court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the Court, 1,276 cases (809 civil and 467 criminal) were disposed of by Court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default, or by voluntary action by the parties involved. Table 6 shows 83 cases were dismissed by order of the Supreme Court; 198 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 75 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice, 356 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties, 13 cases were consolidated, and 454 cases were transferred by order of the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals. The number of appeals terminated by the clerk for failure to cure a default was cut in half (149 to 75) from 1980 figures. In total, 1,659 filings were disposed of by the Supreme Court in 1981. Excluding cases transferred to the Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court disposed of 1,205 appeals in 1981.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 5,006 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. Excluding orders transferring cases to the Court of Appeals, the number of dispository and non-dispository orders issued by the Supreme Court during the last six years is illustrated below.

	Dispository Orders	Nondispository Orders
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220
1979	743	3,024
1978	718	3,445
1977	718	2,432
1976	616	2,281

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the Supreme Court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One important innovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalent from 1929-1943; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in Court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two days hearing oral arguments. (During the monthly Court week, Wednesdays are generally reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc, cases before the Supreme Court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire Court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The research staff initially screens all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the Supreme Court or transferred to the Court of Appeals.

During the last quarter of 1981, the Supreme Court began a more summary treatment of appropriate cases. By utilizing a panel of five justices, eliminating oral argument, and writing brief per curiam opinions, the Supreme Court in the three-month period terminated 135 cases or 35.2 percent of the formal dispositions in 1981. While the number of formal dispositions and per curiam opinions have increased significantly, the average length of Supreme Court opinions and the proportion of trial court rulings reversed on appeal have decreased.

As noted in Table 8, 351 of the 383 Supreme Court decisions were decided by a five-member panel. All disciplinary cases were considered en banc; 9.6 percent of the civil and 4.6 percent of the criminal cases were formally voted on by the full membership. Overall, 8.3 percent of the cases disposed of in 1981 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc. During the five previous years, the percentage of cases decided en banc was 17.1, 21.4, 23.5, 9.9, and 5.3 percent, respectively.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the Court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the Court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1981, 136 of the 390 cases (34.9 percent) were submitted without oral argument before the Supreme Court. Indicative of the increased number of fast track submissions handled by the Court in 1981, the number and

percentage of appeals submitted without oral argument jumped to the highest level since 1976.

Submissions to the Supreme Court

	Oral	Non-oral	Total	Percent Non-Oral
1981	254	136	390	34.9
1980	236	46	282	16.3
1979	209	60	269	22.3
1978	258	96	354	27.1
1977	264	105	369	28.5
1976	242	149	391	38.1

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the Court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, case statements, court orders, and screening recommendations drafted by the research staff, and the administrative tasks performed by the court administrator and staff and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the "Iowa Court of Appeals." The new Court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January, 1977. The current members on the Iowa Court of Appeals are: Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge, (St. Charles), Allen L. Donielson (West Des Moines), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids), and Janet A. Johnson (Des Moines).

The Court of Appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, postconviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders, and other processes transferred to it by the Supreme Court. The Iowa Court of Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the Supreme Court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the Supreme Court.

Workload

As indicated in Table 8, during 1981, the five-member Court of Appeals disposed of 511 cases - 348 civil and 163 criminal - the largest number of dispositions in its 5-year history. There were 368 per curiam opinions, 133 signed opinions, and ten cases dismissed by order. Since the Court of Appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 2,004 cases (1,437 civil and 567 criminal). There were 70 civil and 22 criminal cases pending before the Court of Appeals at the end of 1981.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion is illustrated in Table 9. As noted in this Table, the Court of Appeals disposed of 157 domestic relations cases - 63 involving child custody - 39 contract cases, 36 administrative law cases, and 33 tort cases. Twenty-seven of the 163 criminal cases involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing only.

Of the 501 cases disposed of by opinion, 337 or 67.2 percent were affirmed, 81 or 16.2 percent were reversed, and 83 or 16.6 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only. Nearly three-fourths of the cases (368/501) were decided by per curiam opinion.

During 1981, the Supreme Court considered 135 applications for further review and granted review in 16 cases. Of the 13 Court of Appeals rulings reviewed by the Supreme Court in 1981, 12 were vacated, and one was affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the Court of Appeals was 5.3 months; two weeks longer than the elapse time recorded in 1980 but seven months less than appellate delay in 1977 - the Court's first year of operation. [Table 10]. In 1981, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 5.8 months - an increase of one month since 1980 but 10.3 months less than the appellate delay in 1977.

Of the 507 cases submitted to the Court of Appeals in 1981, 275 (54.2 percent) were heard on the record without oral argument. In 1978, 1979, and 1980 the proportion of cases decided without oral argument was 52.2, 43.2, and 37.1 percent, respectively.

Including dissenting (70) and concurring (15) opinions, the 501 formal opinions totaled 2,060 pages, an average of 4.1 pages per case or 412 pages per judge, counting the title page. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 15 legal-sized pages double-spaced.

Of the 383 dispositions by formal opinion, 293 or 76.5 percent were appealed from nine populous counties: Polk (104), Black Hawk (53), Linn (37), Scott (32), Pottawattamie (22), Johnson and Woodbury (12), Cerro Gordo (11) and Story (10). During 1981, the Court of Appeals decided cases from 78 counties.

Iowa Appellate Courts - Statistical Summary

There were 1,733 cases - 1,175 civil and 558 criminal - docketed in the Supreme Court in 1981, up from 1,620 in 1980.

The skyrocketing rise of appellate case filings from 1971 to 1981 is graphically illustrated in Table 11. Since 1971 civil filings have soared 212.5 percent (376 to 1,125) while the number of criminal cases docketed has mushroomed 96.5 percent (284 to 558). Even with the creation of the Court of Appeals and five additional appellate court judges, the average number of filings per judge during the past decade jumped 69.9 percent (73 to 124).

During 1981, the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals disposed of 1,716 cases - 1,064 civil and 652 criminal - up from 1,510 in 1980. Nearly half of the civil (514/1,064) and criminal (318/652) dispositions were by order rather than formal opinion; 72.1 percent of these matters were dismissed by the clerk or the court, denied or consolidated; 27.9 percent were voluntarily dismissed or withdrawn. There were 1,247 cases pending (793 civil and 454 criminal) at the end of the year - an increase of 79 or 6.8 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition rose 26.4 percent (311 to 394) during 1981.

There were 884 dispositions by formal opinion - 550 civil and 334 criminal. During 1981, the average case was disposed of approximately 14 1/2 months after it was docketed in the Supreme Court Clerk's Office; in 1980 the elapse time was slightly over 13 months. In the average case it took the parties nine months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the Court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was about five and one-half months. The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations - 203 of 550 civil cases or 36.9 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: contracts and torts, 68 each; administrative law, 59; property, 40; postconviction relief, 37; trusts, estates, and wills, 20. The number of appellate rulings involving domestic relations increased 42.0 percent (143 to 203); the number of formal decisions regarding postconviction matters more than doubled (18 to 37) in one year. Although the Supreme Court revoked the licenses of nine attorneys, suspended the licenses of nine lawyers, and imposed lesser penalties on ten others, only four cases were disposed by a formal published opinion.

Financial Statement

The 1981 Session of the 69th General Assembly appropriated $10,894,533 to finance the operation and administration of the trial and appellate courts in Iowa for fiscal year ending June 30, 1982. (This figure includes appropriations for the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, State Court Administrator's Office, Judicial Qualifications Commission, Board

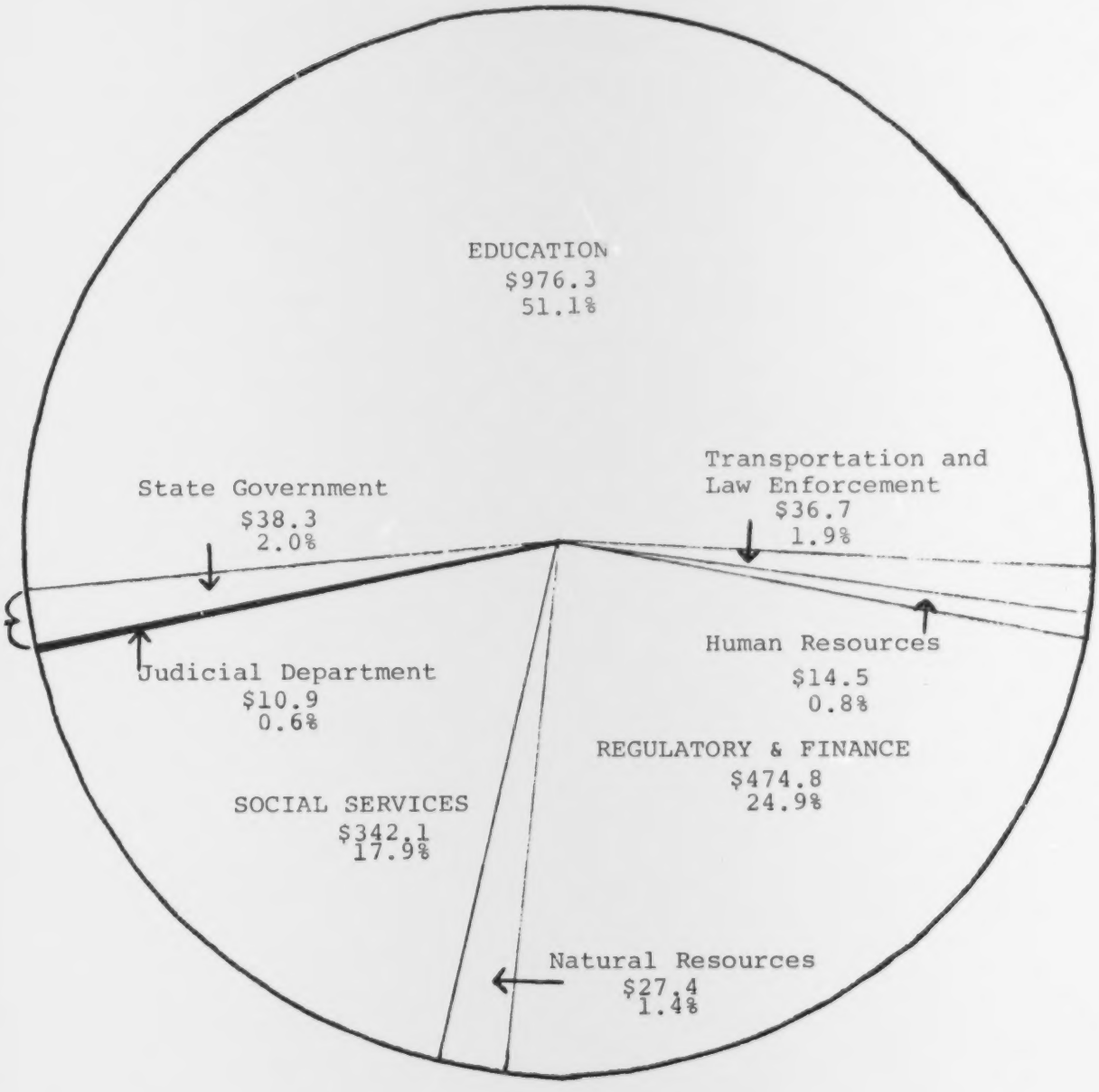
of Law Examiners, Board of Shorthand Reporters, and the salaries and travel expenses of all trial court judges.) The appropriation for the judiciary represented 0.6 of one percent of the total State budget of $1,910,160,378. Of the 10.9 million appropriated to the Judicial Department for operations, administration, boards, and retirement, $10.5 million or 95.8 percent was earmarked for salaries and fringe benefits - chief justice of the Supreme Court, $57,900; eight justices $52,900; chief judge of the Court of Appeals, $51,300; four associate judges $50,200; eight chief judges of the district court, $49,100; 87 district court judges, $47,000; 30 district associate judges and nine substitute district associate judges, $38,900; and 164 magistrate (part-time) positions, $10,800.

As noted in Chart 2 on the following page, the major appropriation categories and their share of the State's budget were: Education, 51.1 percent, Regulatory and Finance, 24.9 percent; Social Services 17.9 percent; State Department (including the Judicial Branch), 2.0 percent; Transportation and Law Enforcement, 1.9 percent; Natural Resources, 1.4 percent; and Human Resources, 0.8 percent.

CHART 2

STATE OF IOWA

Appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 1982
in millions of dollars $1,910.2



The cost of administering the Judicial Department is 0.6 of one percent of the total State Budget for FY 1982.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL, AND DISCIPLINARY CASES TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION - SUPREME COURT OF IOWA 1976-1981

	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	DISCIPLINARY	TOTAL
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
1976	176	210	8	394
1975	229	143	6	378
TOTAL	1,499	910	42	2,451

a. Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one Court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1981, the 383 Supreme Court decisions involved 396 case filings.
b. The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of postconviction relief, and all certiorari cases.
c. "Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.
d. Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA
AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS	
	1980	1981
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court		
Civil Case	149	145
Criminal Case	75	159
Original Certiorari		
Civil Case	4	6
Criminal Case	4	3
Appeal from Interlocutory Appeal	10	19
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	5	1
Certified Question of Law	2	3
Appeal in Postconviction Relief Proceeding	8	21
Lawyer Disciplinary	4	4
Further Review	10	15
Miscellaneous	4	7
Total Dispositions	275	383

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF
BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1977-1981

TYPE OF CASE	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
CIVIL					
Administrative Law	27	40	54	31	23
Contracts	43	32	39	42	29
Contested child custody	11	12	9	10	14
Domestic relations not involving child custody	27	19	8	8	32
Postconviction relief	9	9	8	8	21
Property	25	22	13	15	16
Taxation	14	7	5	4	4
Tort	54	45	33	34	33
Trust, estates, wills	11	10	5	9	7
Other	31	49	28	26	29
TOTAL CIVIL	252	245	202	187	208
CRIMINAL					
Guilty plea only	14	7	2	4	11
Sentencing only	14	11	14	9	19
Guilty plea and sentencing only	4	2	3	3	7
Other	86	83	62	68	134
TOTAL CRIMINAL	118	103	81	84	171
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS	4	9	7	4	4
TOTAL	374	357	290	275	383

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d] - A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS, DECEMBER 31, 1979, 1980, AND 1981

	1979			1980			1981		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
IN WORK	485	294	779	433	424	857	491	362	853
READY	95	30	125*	67	33	100*	200	34	234*
ASSIGNED	19	11	30	20	9	29	18	11	29
OUT-TO-JUSTICES	19	15	34	24	19	43	34	15	49
TOTALS	618	350	968	544	485	1,029	743	422	1,165

a. In Work - All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.
b. Ready - All cases ready for submission.
c. Assigned - All cases which have been assigned to the judges and will be submitted or formally presented to the Court within a month.
d. Out-to-Justices - All cases submitted to the Court which have not been decided.

*For purposes of this table, the 377, 460, and 454 cases transferred to the Court of Appeals in 1979, 1980, and 1981, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the Supreme Court.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION - SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			AVERAGE DELAY
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0
1975	14.6	3.3	4.7	9.0

TABLE 6

DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT, 1981

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS	
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	259	97
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R. App. P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	42	33
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	3	2
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	13	-
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, Rules of Appellate Procedure	-	65
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	86	-
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	29	11
Denial of petition for discretionary review	18	54
Cases transferred to the Court of Appeals by order of the Supreme Court	305	149
Consolidations*	9	4
Other	45	52
Totals	809	467
TOTAL CIVIL AND CRIMINAL	1,276	

*For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL, AND DISCIPLINARY
CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT
EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1979-1981

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1979	1980	1981	1979	1980	1981	1979	1980	1981
CIVIL	45	35	20	157	152	188	22.3%	18.7%	9.6%
CRIMINAL	10	8	8	71	76	163	12.3%	9.5%	4.6%
DISCIPLINARY	7	4	4	-	-	-	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
TOTAL	62	47	32	228	228	351	21.4%	17.1%	8.3%

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO, TERMINATED BY, AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS, 1977-1981

	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425*	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	1,487	599	2,086	1,437	567	2,004	313	154	467

*Includes 69 cases - 56 civil and 13 criminal - transferred to the Court of Appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPES OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION-
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS, 1977-1981

TYPE OF CASE	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS 1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
CIVIL					
Administrative Law	15	21	13	33	36
Contracts	39	26	47	35	39
Contested Child Custody	23	50	35	44	63
Domestic Relations not involving Child Custody	58	68	76	81	94
Postconviction Relief	7	7	8	10	16
Property	40	40	21	26	24
Taxation	4	4	2	3	4
Tort	52	30	25	34	35
Trusts, Estates, Wills	13	3	13	14	13
Other	6	17	17	16	14
TOTAL CIVIL	257	266	257	296	338
CRIMINAL					
Guilty Plea Only	5	11	11	3	10
Sentencing Only	2	5	9	7	12
Guilty Plea and Sentencing Only	2	1	-	2	5
Other	63	99	100	82	136
TOTAL CRIMINAL	72	116	120	94	163
TOTAL	329	382	377	390	501

TABLE 10

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION - IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	7.3	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16 1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 11

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED*
AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL, 1971-1981

	CIVIL**	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
1976	737	439	1,176
1975	694	392	1,086
1974	594	362	956
1973	611	364	975
1972	361	285	646
1971	376	284	660

*A case is considered filed or docketed at the time the clerk prepares a docket page and assigns a number to the case.
**Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court," became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges, and judicial magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the State.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerk of the district court to furnish each judicial magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a judicial magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerk and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Judicial Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time judicial magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A judicial magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill the positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and able to serve a full term of office before reaching the mandatory retirement age of seventy-two (72). Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Guthrie and Ida Counties exercised this option in 1981.) Part-time magistrates serve a two-year term of office commencing July 1, in odd-numbered years. The apportionment made in 1979 and reaffirmed in 1981 appears in Appendix E.

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a substitute district associate judge to serve in lieu of three part-time magistrates. (Effective

January 1, 1981, full-time and substitute full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges and substitute district associate judges, respectively. Chapter 1022, Acts of the 68th G.A., 1980 Session.) The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district judges in the judicial election district in which the county is located. Substitute district associate judges are nominated, appointed, and retained in the same manner as district associate judges. They also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority, and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges.

Jurisdiction

Part-time judicial magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors. R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a), The Code.]

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. Search warrant proceedings.

4. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (section 229.22, The Code.)

5. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs, and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property (Chapter 644).]

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

6. Small claims. [A small claim is a civil action (1) for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $1,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, and (2) actions for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved.]

The Act requires the clerk of the district court to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default judgment, or a voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

The original Act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal, or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy. By the end of 1980, there were 17 regular full-time magistrates and nine substitute full-time magistrates.

As noted above, effective January 1, 1981, full-time and substitute full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges and substitute district associate judges, respectively. (Chapter 1022, Acts of the 68th G.A., 1980 Session.) Substitute district associate judges have the same qualifications, jurisdiction, and salary as district associate judges. Full-time magistrates who became district associate or substitute district associate judges on January, 1981, and persons appointed to these positions on or before November 2, 1981, stand for retention in office in their judicial election district in 1982, and every four years thereafter.

Persons appointed to these offices after November 1, 1981, who cannot complete a one-year initial term of office before the November 2, 1982, general election, will stand for retention at the 1984 general election.

Unless otherwise indicated, for purposes of this report the term "district associate judge" shall include both regular and substitute district associate judges. The number of such judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated below.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges	Substitute District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2	-
1B	Black Hawk	3	-
2A	Cerro Gordo	1	-
2B	Marshall	1	-
2B	Webster	1	-
2B	Story	1	1
3A	Dickinson	-	1
3B	Woodbury	2	1
4	Pottawattamie	2	1
5A	Jasper	1	-
5A	Polk	4	2
5A	Warren	-	1
6	Johnson	1	-
6	Linn	3	1
7	Clinton	1	-
7	Muscatine	1	-
7	Scott	3	-
8A	Des Moines	1	1
8A	Lee	1	-
8B	Wapello	1	-
	TOTAL	30	9

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county judicial magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for days of actual service rendered. In 1981, an alternate district associate judge served in Dickinson, Marshall, and Warren Counties.

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as part-time magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. Civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $3,000,

2. Indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors, and

3. Juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure, but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. If the original action was tried by a magistrate, the district judge shall try the case anew; a case tried by a district associate judge or a district judge acting as an associate judge is appealed to a district judge on the record. Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the Supreme Court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the Supreme Court.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGES

In January, 1981, there were 92 district court judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in February, 1981, 117 judgeships were authorized. However, the provisions of section 602.18, The Code, limited the maximum number of judgeships to 92. In May, 1981, the legislature increased the maximum number of judgeships to 95, effective October 1. The latest computation of the judgeship formula (February, 1982) authorized a total of 123 judgeships. The statutory formula and a copy of the application of the formula in 1981 and 1982 appear at the end of this part of the report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts (Appendix D) and into 13 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 33. With 95 judges serving in the eight judicial districts during the last quarter of 1981, the population spread per judge ranged from 26,935 in the 5th to 35,438 in the 3rd District. [Appendix C.]

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of judicial magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for judicial magistrates. Under the Iowa probate code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, district court judges, and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. The Supreme Court may not assign a senior judge judicial duties on a court superior to the highest court to which he or she was appointed prior to retirement. A senior judge may not be assigned to the Court of Appeals or the Supreme Court except to serve in the temporary absence of a member of that court. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge system.

As of January 1, 1982, three Supreme Court justices - M.L. Mason, C. Edwin Moore, and Warren J. Rees - and seven district court judges - James E. Hughes, Lowell D. Phelps, John N. Hughes, Harold L. Martin, Nathan Grant, Paul E. Hellwege, and Frank D. Elwood have taken senior judge status. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of district court judges.

Clerk of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1981 which reduced the workload of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and, through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments and voluntary dismissals in actions for a money judgment, avoided the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. [Tables 12(d), 14(e), and 15.]

2. Maintained a traffic violations office where scheduled violations were admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine and costs before the time specified for appearance before the court on a uniform citation and complaint issued to the alleged violator. [Table 16.]

Judgeship Formula

The subsections of section 602.18, The Code, relating to the determination of the number of judges in each of the 13 judicial election districts and the matter of filling judgeship vacancies, are as follows:

1. Subject to the provision for temporary assignment of judges, as set out in subsection 9, hereof, each district judge in office on July 1, 1967 shall continue to serve in the district of his domicile so long as he remains a district judge, regardless of the number of judgeships to which the district is entitled under subsection 2 hereof.

2. The number of judgeships to which each of the judicial election districts shall be entitled shall be determined from time to time according to the following formula:

a. In an election district wherein the largest county contains two hundred thousand or more population, there shall be one judgeship per seven hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction

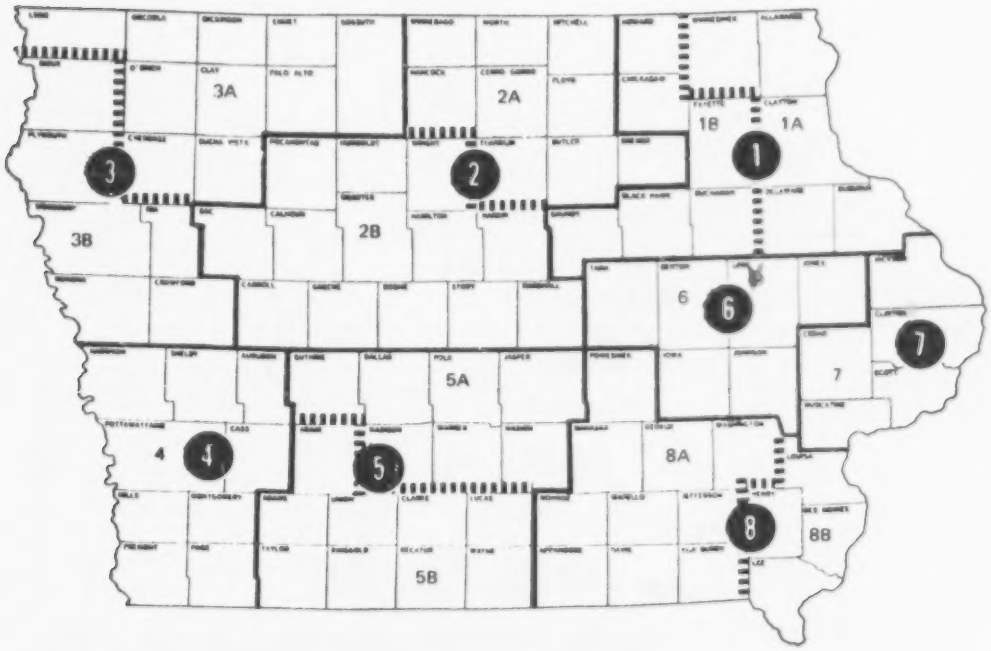
thereof; provided, the seat of government shall be entitled to one additional judgeship.

b. In an election district wherein the largest county contains eighty-five thousand or more population, but less than two hundred thousand, there shall be one judgeship per six hundred twenty-five combined filings or major fraction thereof.

c. In an election district wherein the largest county contains forty-five thousand or more population, but less than eighty-five thousand, there shall be one judgeship per five hundred twenty-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

d. In an election district wherein the largest county contains less than forty-five thousand population, there shall be one

Iowa's 8 Judicial Districts and 13 Judicial Election Districts



*Judicial election districts are for the purposes of nomination, appointment, and election of district judges, the application of the judgeship formula, the removal of judicial magistrates, and the appointment of substitute and regular full-time judicial magistrates.

judgeship per four hundred seventy-five combined civil and criminal filings or major fraction thereof.

e. Notwithstanding paragraphs a, b, c, or d of this subsection, each election district shall be entitled to not less than one judgeship for each forty thousand population or major fraction thereof contained in the election district. The court administrator shall determine both the number of judgeships for each election district based upon this paragraph, and the number of judgeships for each election district based upon paragraph a, b, c, or d of this subsection. If the number for any election district determined under this paragraph exceeds the number determined under paragraph a, b, c, or d, that election district shall be entitled to the number of judgeships determined under this paragraph.

f. The filings included in the determinations to be made under this subsection shall not include small claims or nonindictable misdemeanors filed after June 30, 1973, nor shall they include either civil actions for money judgment where the amount in controversy does not exceed three thousand dollars or indictable misdemeanors, which were assigned to district associate judges and judicial magistrates as shown on their administrative reports, but they shall include appeals from decisions of judicial magistrates, district associate judges, and district judges sitting as judicial magistrates. The figures on filings shall be the average for the latest available previous three-year period and when current census figures on population are not available, figures shall be taken from the state department of health computations.

3. A vacancy, for purposes of this section, is defined as the death, resignation, retirement, removal, or failure of retention in office at the judicial election, of a judge or increase in judgeships under this section.

4. In those districts having more judges than the number of judgeships specified by the formula set out in subsection 2 hereof, vacancies shall not be filled.

5. In those districts having fewer judges or the same number of judges as the number of judgeships specified by the formula set out in subsection 2 hereof, vacancies in the number of judges shall be filled as they occur.

6. In those judicial districts that contain judicial election districts, no vacancy in any judicial election district shall be filled if the total number of judges in all the judicial election districts within the judicial district equals or exceeds the number of judgeships to which all the judicial election districts of the judicial district combined are authorized.

7. Vacancies shall not be filled in any district which may become entitled to fewer judgeships under subsection two (2) of this section; but no incumbent judge shall ever be removed from office by reason thereof.

8. During February of each year, and at such other times as may be appropriate, the supreme court administrator shall make the determinations required under this section, and shall notify the nominating commissions involved and the governor of any appointments that may be required as a result thereof.

9. It shall be the duty of the chief justice to assign judges and other court personnel from one judicial district to another, on a continuing basis, if need be, in order to provide a sufficient number of judges to handle the judicial business in all districts promptly and efficiently at all times.

Notwithstanding this section, the number of district judges shall not be increased by more than three in order that the number of district judges shall not exceed ninety-two during the period commencing with July 1, 1977 and ending at such time as the general assembly shall otherwise specify.

In May, 1981, the General Assembly amended the paragraph above and approved legislation increasing the number of district judges to ninety-five (95), effective October 1, 1981. (Chapter 189, section 1, Acts of the 69th G.A., 1981 Session.) The three new judgeships were awarded to the most deserving judicial election districts (2B, 7th, 6th) according to the February 11, 1981, application of the formula found on the next page.

APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.18, SUBSECTION 2, THE CODE 1979

Based on (1) 3-year Average Combined Filings (1978-79-80), with exclusions listed in section 602.18, subsection 2, The Code, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c, and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

Judicial Election District	Number Based on (1) Above	Number Based on (2) Above	Formula Judgeships*	Resident Judges
1A[b]	2,771 (4.43)	170,551 (4.26)	4	4
1B[b]	5,380 (8.61)	226,616 (5.67)	9	8
2A[c]	3,664 (6.98)	171,448 (4.29)	7	5
2B[c]	6,914 (13.17)	328,149 (8.20)	13	10
3A[d]	3,137 (6.60)	157,788 (3.94)	7	5
3B[b]	4,110 (6.58)	195,095 (4.88)	7	5
4[b]	4,840 (7.74)	198,238 (4.96)	8	6
5A[a]	12,955 (17.87)	456,800 (11.42)	19[e]	17[e]
5B[d]	1,871 (3.94)	80,516 (2.01)	4	3
6[b]	7,935 (12.70)	330,274 (8.26)	13	10
7[b]	7,534 (12.05)	298,117 (7.45)	12	9
8A[d]	3,677 (7.74)	174,282 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	3,076 (5.86)	120,026 (3.00)	6	4
State Totals	67,864	2,907,900	117	92

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship under the formula.

*Although the 1981 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-five (25) vacancies, the provisions of Section 3, Chapter 18, 67th, G.A., 1977 Session, limiting the maximum number of judgeships to 92, prohibit the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 11, 1981, by: Court Administrator
State Capitol
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

APPLICATION OF THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA UNDER SECTION 602.18, SUBSECTION 2, THE CODE 1981

Based on (1) 3-year Average Combined Filings (1979-80-81), with exclusions listed in section 602.18, subsection 2, The Code, divided by the factor opposite the classification of the population of the largest county in the Judicial Election District as appears in footnotes a, b, c, and d, or (2) one judge for each 40,000 or major fraction of population of entire Election District, whichever results in the largest number of judges.

Judicial Election District	Number Based on (1) Above	Number Based on (2) Above	Formula Judgeships*	Resident Judges
1A[b]	3,082 (4.93)	170,760 (4.27)	5	4
1B[b]	6,168 (9.87)	227,266 (5.68)	10	8
2A[c]	3,810 (7.26)	171,826 (4.30)	7	5
2B[c]	7,363 (14.02)	328,417 (8.21)	14	11
3A[d]	3,213 (6.76)	158,404 (3.96)	7	5
3B[b]	4,450 (7.12)	195,975 (4.90)	7	5
4[b]	5,291 (8.47)	198,726 (4.97)	8	6
5A[a]	14,167 (19.54)	458,235 (11.46)	21[e]	17[e]
5B[d]	2,070 (4.36)	80,481 (2.01)	4	3
6[b]	8,213 (13.14)	330,504 (8.26)	13	11
7[b]	8,282 (13.25)	298,718 (7.47)	13	10
8A[d]	3,865 (8.14)	174,242 (4.36)	8	6
8B[c]	3,331 (6.34)	120,254 (3.01)	6	4
State Totals	73,305	2,913,808	123	95

a. 200,000 or more population - one judgeship per 725 filings or major fraction.
b. 85,000 - 199,999 population - one judgeship per 625 filings or major fraction.
c. 45,000 - 84,999 population - one judgeship per 525 filings or major fraction.
d. 0 - 44,999 population - one judgeship per 475 filings or major fraction.
e. The seat of state government is entitled to one additional judgeship.

*Although the 1982 computation of the judgeship formula created twenty-eight (28) vacancies, the provisions of section 602.18, subsection 11, unnumbered paragraph 2, The Code, as amended by chapter 189, section 1, Acts of the 69th G.A., 1981 Session, limit the maximum number of judgeships to ninety-five (95) and, consequently, prohibit the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared February 9, 1982, by: State Court Administrator
State House
Des Moines, IA 50319

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity, and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action is also considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory, or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or exceeds 30 days imprisonment in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 95,157 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1981. This was a 14.7 percent increase over the 94,111 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1980 and a 42.8 percent increase over the 66,261 cases docketed five years earlier in 1976 - the year preceding the legislative freeze on the number of district court judgeships as discussed in the previous section. A comparison of cases docketed during 1980 and 1981 reveals that while criminal filings rose 3.5 percent (35,669 to 36,932) civil filings declined 0.4 percent (58,442 to 58,225).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges, and substitute and alternate district associate judges for disposition. These three types of judicial officers mentioned above will hereafter be referred to as district associate judges. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges amount to 89,729 - an increase of 13.1 percent over the 88,013 cases disposed of in 1980. Despite the increase in dispositions, there were 3,832 more cases pending December 31, 1981 than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases increased in six of the eight judicial districts. [Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a).]

District Judges' Activities

During 1981, district court judges disposed of 54,511 regular civil cases: 472 or 0.9 percent by trial to jury, 6,346 or 11.6 percent by trial to court, and 47,693 or 87.5

percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 469 in the 2nd to 760 in the 4th District. Statewide, there were 574 civil dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 2(a), (b), and (d).]

During 1981, district judges disposed of 17,834 regular criminal cases: 614 or 3.4 percent by trial to jury, 1,155 or 6.5 percent by trial to court, and 16,065 or 90.1 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 125 in the 8th to 237 in the 5th District. Statewide, there were 188 criminal dispositions per district court judge. [Tables 3(a), (b), and (d).]

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge by district, with the rank of each district, is shown on Table 10. The 4th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (923) while the 2nd District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (658).

District Associate Judges' Activities

There were 922 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1981 - an 11.2 percent decrease from the 1,038 cases assigned in 1980. During 1981, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 1,025 regular civil cases, 2 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 118 or 11.5 percent by trial to court, and 905 or 88.3 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 6th to 104 in the 1st District. [Tables 2(a), (c), and (d).]

During 1981, 17,592 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges as compared to 17,532 assigned to such judges in 1980 and 14,460 in 1979. Of the 16,359 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges in 1981, 178 or 1.1 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 115 or 0.7 percent by trial to court, and 16,066 or 98.2 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 194 in the 5th to 755 in the 6th District. [Tables 3(a), (c), and (d).]

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented one-third (18,814) of the 58,225 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1981. [Table 4.] These cases, combined with other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (9,283) and domestic abuse (108), accounted for nearly one-half (48.4 percent) of all civil

cases filed in the district court. In the 1st, 4th, 7th and 8th Districts, domestic relations cases comprised more than one-half of the total civil case filings.

Table 4 also shows that 941 (3.6 percent) of the 26,112 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed upon the record to the district court, pursuant to section 631.13, The Code. Such appeals comprised 1.6 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 14,346 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OMVUI - operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or drug) embraced 52.3 percent of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 38.8 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanor (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. [Table 5.] Over one-half of the OMVUI cases (7,504) were filed in the 5th, 6th, and 7th Districts which contain the three largest cities and 40 percent of the state's population.

The 8,166 felony filings represented 22.1 percent of the 36,932 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.5 of one percent (1,353) of the 271,973 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, R. Cr. P. Such appeals comprised 3.7 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 52,649 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 12,561 or 24 percent were over 18 months old. During 1981, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months increased by 2,552 or 25.5 percent. [Appendix A.] Those pending in the 2nd, 3rd, 7th and 8th Districts exceeded the state average; the 5th and 6th Districts had the lowest percentage of civil cases over 18 months. The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 18 percent in the 6th to 30 percent in the 7th District. Except in the 4th and 5th Judicial Districts, there were more civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning.

Of the 17,731 regular criminal cases pending at the end of the year, 3,717 or 22 percent were over 18 months old - 61 percent (10,788) had been pending more than three months. [Appendix B.] The 3rd and 7th Districts had the highest percent of cases pending over 90 days; the 4th and 1st Districts had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old. Except in the 4th District, there were more criminal cases pending December 31, than on January 1, 1981.

There were 2,739 more criminal cases pending on December 31, than on January 1, 1981. The number of pending criminal cases increased in every district except the 4th; in the 6th District criminal cases pending soared 27.5 percent. Overall, pending cases increased from 14,992 to 17,737 during 1981 - an increase of 18.3 percent. [Table 3(a).]

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 869 trusteeships opened in 1981 - up 3.9 percent from the previous year. [Table 6(a).] The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 59 in the 4th to 167 in the 5th District. During 1981, 4,088 guardianships and conservatorships were opened - up 19.0 percent from 1980; the number of cases ranged from 247 in the 4th to 957 in the 5th. Some 19,235 decedent estates were opened in 1981 - an increase of 424 or 2.3 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,375 in the 7th to 3,694 in the 5th District. Statewide, there were 17 jury trials and 264 trials to court in contested probate matters; the number of jury and court trials in 1980 was seven and 310, respectively. [Table 6(a).]

Of the 18,017 estates closed during 1981, 52 percent were closed within one year, 35 percent from 1-3 years, and 13 percent after three years. The respective percentages for the 17,239 estates closed in 1980 were 50 percent, 34 percent, and 16 percent. In 1981, 65 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 5th District; in the 6th District only 44 percent of the estates were closed within a year. [Table 6(b).] The number of decedents' estates closed during 1981 was 1,218 less than the number of new estates opened. In 1980, there were 1,094 more estates opened than closed. [Table 6(a) and (b).]

Table 10 indicates the number of probate matters closed per judge in each district during 1981. The number of probate matters closed varies from 148 per judge in the 6th to 295 per judge in the 3rd District.

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges and certain district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 5,570 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1981 - an increase of 69 petitions over 1980. [Table 7(a).] Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (3,520), child in need of assistance or CHINA (1,955), family in need of assistance or FINA (74),

and interstate compacts or extradition (21). Thirty-five percent of the FINA petitions were filed in the 1st District; no such petitions were filed in the 4th, and 6th Districts.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in Table 7(b). The number of juvenile hearings by type of judicial officer is presented in Table 7(c). Data suggest that over one-half of the 14,499 juvenile hearings involved disposition and/or adjudication issues; and nearly one-half of the formal hearings (7,152) were conducted by district associate judges with juvenile referees and district judges handling 5,640 and 1,707 hearings, respectively.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in Table 8, there were 1,005 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1981 - an increase of three cases over 1980. Forty-three percent (437) involved involuntary or contested proceedings. The largest number of termination cases (215) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (64) were filed in the 4th District. There were 938 formal hearings held on these matters - down 39 from 1980.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 9(a) shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. The total number of hearings by type of judicial officer is noted in a footnote to that Table. Hospitalization referees held over 92 percent of the involuntary adult, 88 percent of the substance abuse hearings, and 83 percent of the involuntary minor hearings. Overall, there were 3,756 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1981 - 151 involuntary minor, 1,808 involuntary adult, 1,129 emergency, and 668 substance abuse.

General Activity of District Associate Judges

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 151,806 cases were docketed or assigned and 155,213 cases were disposed of by the 39 associate judges during 1981. There were 49,977 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and

assigned ranged from 4,086 in the 8th to 67,476 in the 5th District. The total number of simple misdemeanor/small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 571 in the 8th to 36,297 in the 5th District. The number of each type of case filed, terminated, and pending during 1981 appears in Tables 12(a) through 12(d).

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 14,747 initial appearance proceedings and 509 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, R. Cr. P. [Table 12(a).] Eighty-six percent of the preliminary hearings and 30 percent of the initial appearances were held in the 5th District.

There were 12,128 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1980. During 1981, 53,151 were docketed as compared to 61,717 in 1980 - a decrease of 13.9 percent. Of the 54,981 state cases terminated during 1981, the judges disposed of 86 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 2,430 or 4.4 percent by trial to court and 52,465 or 95.4 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanors pending at the end of 1981 (10,298) was 1,830 less than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1981, the 5th District had the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed, terminated and pending. [Table 12(b).]

Some 39,966 ordinance cases were pending from 1980. During 1981, 65,229 were docketed and 66,327 cases were disposed of: 22 or less than 0.1 percent by trial to jury, 2,618 or 3.9 percent by trial to court, and 63,687 or 96.0 percent without trial. The number of pending cases decreased by 1,098 to 38,868. [Table 12(c).]

During 1981, district associate judges entertained 552 search warrant applications and conducted 713 seized property hearings. Over 43 percent of the applications for search warrants occurred in the 5th and 2nd Districts; over 45 percent of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. [Table 14(d).] There were also 368 hospitalization hearings held by the 39 full-time judges of limited jurisdiction. [Table 9(b).]

There were 16,975 small claims assigned and 17,016 cases terminated during 1981. [Table 12(d).] The judges resolved 5,479 or 32.2 percent by trial to the court and 11,537 or 67.8 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 9,573 or 83.0 percent were defaulted and 1,964 or 17.0 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Nearly one-half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were filed and disposed of in the 5th District.

Judicial Magistrates

In 1981, 181,555 cases were docketed or assigned to the 166 judicial magistrates; they disposed of 183,102 or 1,103 cases per magistrate. [Table 13.] Over 43 percent of the cases (79,546) were handled by the 57 magistrates in the 1st and 2nd Districts. The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 729 (3rd District) to 1,866 (1st District). Nearly 60 percent of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st, 2nd and 5th Districts. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 198,726 (4th) to 538,716 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (7th) to 34 (2nd).]

As shown in Table 14(a), there were 13,236 initial appearances and 1,345 preliminary hearings conducted by judicial magistrates in indictable criminal cases. While the largest number of such actions were in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 7th District had the fewest number of initial appearances and preliminary hearings.

There were 87,256 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before judicial magistrates in 1981. [Table 14(b).] The magistrates disposed of 86,748 cases: 146 by trial to jury, 8,472 by trial to court, and 78,130 or 90.1 percent without trial. The 2nd District had the most jury trials (35) while the 4th District reported the least (7). There were 18,524 nonindictable cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 4,623 were docketed in the 7th District. Over two-thirds of the pending cases were found in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Districts.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 61,800 cases were docketed, 63,917 were disposed, and 5,624 were still pending on December 31, 1981. Ninety-two percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 23 magistrates in the 1st District handled 25,925 ordinance cases while the 19 magistrates in the 5th District disposed of 5,019. [Table 14(c).] Forty percent of the filings and 53 percent of the pending cases were within the 1st District.

Overall, magistrates terminated 150,665 simple misdemeanors in 1981 compared to 159,124 in 1980. Approximately 60 percent of the simple misdemeanors handled by all judicial officers involved traffic matters.

Judicial magistrates entertained 813 applications for search warrants, conducted 644 seized property hearings and handled twelve lost property actions during 1981. [Table 14(d).] There were 929 search warrant applications and 559 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1980.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications decreased 9.1 percent (1,621 to 1,483) while the number of seized property hearings increased 9.7 percent (1,237 to 1,357) since 1980. While magistrates in the 2nd District received the largest number of search warrant applications (188), those in the 1st District conducted the most seized property hearings (229). Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 5th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown on Table 14(e), magistrates disposed of 16,339 small claims cases in 1981. Forty-six percent (7,231) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 9,168 cases (7,713 defaults and 1,455 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 2nd District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates (7,193), tried to court (2,220), and pending (1,083) before magistrates at the end of the year.

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in recordkeeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the new Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks are also responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails-in or delivers his admission, scheduled fine, and $6.00 costs to the clerk's traffic violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other nonmoving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (48,583) than judges (26,112). While clerks in the 3rd District took care of over 3/4 of the small claims terminated, in the 5th District they handled only 52.3 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 65.0 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in Table 16, the district court clerks disposed of 470,553 scheduled violations without the attention or assistance of any judicial officer - down 19,605 or 4.0 percent from 1980. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,753 scheduled violations in 1981. The number

of scheduled violations ranged from 317 in Ringgold County to 109,712 in Polk County.

Trial Court Statistics - A Summary

There were 58,225 regular civil cases (over $1,000 and small claims on appeal) and 36,932 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and felonies and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1981. This represented a 0.4 percent decrease in civil filings and a 3.5 percent increase in criminal filings since 1980. [Appendix F.] There was a total of 89,729 civil/criminal dispositions. While the number of civil cases terminated increased by 1,782 or 3.3 percent (53,754 to 55,536) the number of criminal dispositions decreased slightly (34,259 to 34,193) from 1980 figures. There were 474 jury trials and 6,464 court trials of civil cases; in criminal matters there were 792 jury trials and 1,270 court trials. Eighty-seven and one-half percent of the civil cases and 94.0 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial.

There were 52,649 civil cases pending at the end of 1981 compared with 49,960 on January 1 - an increase of 5.4 percent. The number of pending criminal cases jumped 18.3 percent (14,992 to 17,731). In all but the 4th District there were more criminal cases pending at the end of 1981 than at the beginning of the year. The number of civil cases pending escalated in six of the eight districts. Of the cases pending statewide, 78 percent of the civil cases and 61 percent of the criminal cases were over 3 months old; 24 percent of the civil cases (12,561) and 22 percent of the criminal cases (3,917) were over 18 months old. These figures represent a one year increase of 55.1 percent in the number of pending criminal cases over 18 months in age and a 25.5 percent increase in the number of civil cases pending over a year and a half.

In 1981, there were 761 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge - about the same output per judge as in 1980 but up from 683 in 1979. District court judges in the 4th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (923); in the 2nd District the average number of dispositions was 658.

A review of the type of cases docketed in the district court shows that 48.4 percent of the 58,225 civil filings involve domestic relations - dissolutions and modifications (18,814), uniform support actions (9,283), and domestic abuse (108). Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was 1st and 2nd offense OMVUI (operating a motor vehicle while under the influence). OMVUI comprised

38.8 percent or 14,346 of the 36,932 criminal filings. Simple misdemeanors (1,353) and small claims appeals (941) represented only 3.7 percent of the criminal filings and 1.6 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.5 percent of the 271,973 simple misdemeanors and 3.6 percent of the 26,112 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened increased slightly during 1981 - 869 trusteeships, 4,088 guardianships and conservatorships, and 19,235 estates. Corresponding figures for 1980 were 836, 3,805, and 18,811, respectively. The number of estates closed rose from 17,717 to 18,017; the percentage closed within a one-year period climbed from 50 to 52 percent since 1980.

There also was a very modest increase in the number of juvenile petitions filed (5,501 to 5,570) compared with 1980 figures. The number of formal juvenile hearings increased 4.9 percent (13,819 to 14,499). Over 88 percent of the juvenile hearings were conducted by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction - district associate judges and referees. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 1,005 petitions and 938 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 1,002 and 977 such matters the previous year.

The average district court judge held 18 juvenile hearings, closed 234 probate matters, terminated 761 regular civil/criminal cases, and tried 90 contested civil/criminal cases during 1981.

There were 271,973 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1981 - down 9.7 percent from the number (301,253) handled in 1980. Over 93 percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 27,983 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,854 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,483 applications for search warrants, conducted 1,357 seized property hearings, disposed of twelve lost property actions, and handled 3,756 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 26,112 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 48,563. There were 470,553 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED, DISPOSED OF[b], AND PENDING IN 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980[c]
(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil and Criminal Cases)

DISTRICT[b]	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31	CHANGE IN PENDING
1	8,103	12,605	11,894	8,814	+ 711
2	9,581	13,473	12,427	10,627	+1,046
3	7,652	9,562	9,095	8,119	+ 467
4	3,986	7,004	7,097	3,893	- 93
5	14,521	19,302	19,270	14,553	+ 32
6	7,634	12,573	11,488	8,719	+1,085
7	7,281	11,695	10,350	8,626	+1,345
8	6,194	8,943	8,108	7,029	+ 835
1981 Statewide	64,952[d]	95,157	89,729	70,380	+5,428
1980 Statewide	60,450	94,111	88,013	66,548	+6,098

a. Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $1,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.
b. There were nine senior judges, 95 district court judges, 30 district associate, 9 substitute and three alternate district associate judges serving in the Iowa district court on December 31, 1981. In this Report, the work of the senior judges is included in the terminations by district judges; similarly, the dispositions by substitute and alternate district associate judges are combined with the productivity of district associate judges.
c. See map showing districts and 1980 population, Appendix D.
d. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a) REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	6,467	7,831	399	519	6,918	7,437	6,861
2	7,523	8,157	47	49	7,502	7,551	8,129
3	5,734	5,860	274	271	5,491	5,762	5,832
4	3,370	4,514	2	2	4,557	4,559	3,325
5	11,628	12,840	3	3	12,969	12,972	11,496
6	5,045	6,230	-	-	5,858	5,858	5,417
7	5,266	6,812	109	100	5,817	5,917	6,161
8	4,927	5,981	88	81	5,399	5,480	5,428
1981 Statewide	49,960[b]	58,225	922	1,025	54,511	55,536	52,649
1980 Statewide	46,828	58,422	1,038	955	52,799	53,754	51,516

a. Includes the work of thirty district associate judges, nine substitute and three part-time alternate district associate judges. Substitute district associate judges served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie, and Des Moines Counties during 1981; alternate district associate judges served in Dickinson, Jasper, and Warren County. As substitute district associate judges have the same qualifications, jurisdiction, and responsibilities as district associate judges, they are considered one and the same in these tables.
b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(b) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1981 With Totals Compared To Those of 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	6,918	46	0.7%	697	10.1%	6,175	89.2%
2	16	7,502	63	0.8%	873	11.7%	6,566	87.5%
3	10	5,491	70	1.3%	409	7.4%	5,012	91.3%
4	6	4,557	53	1.2%	863	18.9%	3,641	79.9%
5	20	12,969	125	0.9%	1,292	10.0%	11,552	89.1%
6	11	5,858	63	1.1%	532	9.1%	5,263	89.8%
7	10	5,817	27	0.5%	1,064	18.3%	4,726	81.2%
8	10	5,399	25	0.5%	616	11.4%	4,758	88.1%
1981 Statewide	95	54,511	472	0.9%	6,346	11.6%	47,693	87.5%
1980 Statewide	92	52,799	451	0.8%	5,848	11.1%	46,500	88.1%

TABLE 2

(c) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Method of Disposition During 1981 With Totals Compared to Those of 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	519	-	-	48	9.2%	471	90.8%
2	5	49	-	-	15	30.6%	34	69.4%
3	4	271	2	0.7%	21	7.7%	248	91.6%
4	3	2	-	-	2	100.0%	-	-
5	8	3	-	-	3	100.0%	-	-
6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	5	100	-	-	20	20.0%	80	80.0%
8	4	81	-	-	9	11.1%	72	88.9%
1981 Statewide	39	1,025	2	0.2%	118	11.5%	905	88.3%
1980 Statewide	39	955	11	1.2%	233	24.4%	711	74.4%

TABLE 2

(d) REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1981
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	6,918	577	5	519	104
2	16	7,502	469	5	49	10
3	10	5,491	549	4	271	68
4	6	4,557	760	3	2	1
5	20	12,969	648	8	3	0.4
6	11	5,858	533	5	-	-
7	10	5,817	582	5	100	20
8	10	5,399	540	4	81	20
1981 Statewide	95	54,511	574	39	1,025	26
1980 Statewide	92	52,799	574	39	494	13

TABLE 3

(a) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES DISPOSED OF	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	1,636	4,774	2,286	2,178	2,279	4,457	1,953
2	2,058	5,316	1,896	1,849	3,027	4,876	2,498
3	1,918	3,702	1,446	1,337	1,996	3,333	2,287
4	616	2,490	1,501	1,559	979	2,538	568
5	2,893	6,462	1,575	1,553	4,745	6,298	3,057
6	2,589	6,343	4,250	3,776	1,854	5,630	3,302
7	2,015	4,883	3,077	2,731	1,702	4,433	2,465
8	1,267	2,962	1,561	1,376	1,252	2,628	1,601
1981 Statewide	14,992[a]	36,932	17,592	16,359	17,834	34,193	17,731
1980 Statewide	13,622	35,669	17,534	16,811	17,448	34,259	15,032

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 3

(b) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1981 With Totals Compared to Those of 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	2,279	62	2.7%	224	9.8%	1,993	87.5%
2	16	3,027	86	2.9%	222	7.3%	2,719	89.8%
3	10	1,996	43	2.2%	54	2.7%	1,899	95.1%
4	6	979	31	3.2%	46	4.7%	902	92.1%
5	20	4,745	190	4.0%	167	3.5%	4,388	92.5%
6	11	1,854	60	3.2%	296	16.0%	1,498	80.8%
7	10	1,702	96	5.6%	49	2.9%	1,557	91.5%
8	10	1,252	46	3.7%	97	7.7%	1,109	88.6%
1981 Statewide	95	17,834	614	3.4%	1,155	6.5%	16,065	90.1%
1980 Statewide	92	17,448	554	3.2%	1,056	6.1%	15,838	90.7%

TABLE 3

(c) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1981 With Totals Compared to Those of 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAI
1	5	2,178	18	0.8%	10	0.5%	2,150	98.7%
2	5	1,849	22	1.2%	10	0.5%	1,817	98.3%
3	4	1,337	18	1.3%	11	0.8%	1,308	97.8%
4	3	1,559	12	0.8%	17	1.1%	1,530	98.1%
5	8	1,553	13	0.8%	6	0.4%	1,534	98.8%
6	5	3,776	28	0.7%	6	0.2%	3,742	99.1%
7	5	2,731	25	0.9%	3	0.1%	2,703	99.0%
8	4	1,376	42	3.0%	52	3.8%	1,282	93.2%
1981 Statewide	39	16,359	178	1.1%	115	0.7%	16,066	98.2%
1980 Statewide	39	16,811	193	1.1%	168	1.0%	16,450	97.9%

TABLE 3

(d) REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1981
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE
1	12	2,279	190	5	2,178	436
2	16	3,027	189	5	1,849	370
3	10	1,996	200	4	1,337	334
4	6	979	163	3	1,559	518
5	20	4,745	237	8	1,553	194
6	11	1,853	168	5	3,776	755
7	10	1,702	170	5	2,731	546
8	10	1,252	125	4	1,376	344
1981 Statewide	95	17,833	188	39	16,359	419
1980 Statewide	92	17,448	189	39	16,811	431

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS) IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1981
BY TYPE OF CASE

DISTRICT	DISSOLUTIONS	UNIFORM SUPPORT	DOMESTIC ABUSE	OTHER EQUITY AND LAW	SMALL CLAIMS APPEALS	TOTAL
1	1,819 (1,959)	1,944 (1,841)	15 (9)	3,917 (3,496)	136 (132)	7,831 (7,437)
2	2,831 (2,777)	1,192 (1,004)	19 (18)	3,954 (3,598)	161 (154)	8,157 (7,551)
3	1,594 (1,685)	886 (761)	25 (16)	3,257 (3,197)	98 (103)	5,860 (5,762)
4	1,664 (1,736)	951 (1,037)	1 (3)	1,855 (1,736)	43 (47)	4,514 (4,559)
5	4,146 (4,376)	1,530 (1,143)	17 (14)	6,931 (7,197)	216 (242)	12,840(12,972)
6	2,265 (2,207)	685 (553)	19 (11)	3,147 (2,977)	114 (110)	6,230 (5,858)
7	2,506 (2,109)	1,072 (1,234)	11 (6)	3,167 (2,513)	56 (55)	6,812 (5,917)
8	1,989 (1,917)	1,023 (899)	1 (2)	2,851 (2,529)	117 (133)	5,981 (5,480)
1981 Statewide	18,814(18,766)	9,283 (8,472)	108 (79)	29,079(27,243)	941 (976)	58,225(55,536)
Percent of Total	32.3% (33.8%)	15.9% (15.3%)	0.2% (0.1%)	49.9%(49.1%)	1.6%(1.7%)	

Legend: Dissolutions - original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support - actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law (URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS) IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1981
BY CASE TYPE

DISTRICT	OMVUI (1st/2nd)	OTHER INDICTABLE MISDEMEANORS	FELONIES	SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR APPEALS	TOTAL
1	1,687 (1,574)	1,914 (1,764)	968 (913)	205 (206)	4,774 (4,457)
2	1,792 (1,659)	2,056 (1,809)	1,214 (1,184)	254 (224)	5,316 (4,876)
3	1,454 (1,342)	1,200 (1,109)	918 (757)	130 (125)	3,702 (3,333)
4	911 (1,028)	978 (939)	522 (493)	79 (78)	2,490 (2,538)
5	3,062 (2,208)	1,524 (1,926)	1,629 (1,914)	247 (250)	6,462 (6,298)
6	2,425 (2,180)	2,303 (2,033)	1,347 (1,170)	268 (247)	6,343 (5,630)
7	2,017 (1,749)	1,970 (1,811)	836 (816)	60 (57)	4,883 (4,433)
8	998 (793)	1,122 (996)	732 (714)	110 (125)	2,962 (2,628)
1981 Statewide	14,346(12,533)	13,067(12,387)	8,166 (7,961)	1,353 (1,312)	36,932(34,193)
Percent of Total	38.8%(36.7%)	35.4%(36.2%)	22.1%(23.3%)	3.7% (3.8%)	

Legend: OMVUI - operating a motor vehicle while under the influence.
Other indictable misdemeanors - includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OMVUI.

TABLE 6

(a) PROBATE MATTERS

NUMBER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TRUSTEESHIPS OPENED	GUARDIANSHIPS & CONSERVATORSHIPS OPENED	ESTATES OPENED	TRIALS TO JURY	TRIALS TO COURT
1	12	98	496	2,393	1	14
2	16	152	718	3,644	1	68
3	10	135	565	2,450	1	21
4	6	59	247	1,573	-	28
5	20	167	957	3,694	14	54
6	11	100	363	1,883	-	8
7	10	73	376	1,375	-	36
8	10	85	366	2,223	-	35
1981 Statewide	95	869	4,088	19,235	17	264
1980 Statewide	92	836	3,805	18,811	7	310

TABLE 6

(b) DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1981 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING
WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	ESTATES CLOSED	PERCENT WITHIN 1 YEAR	PERCENT FROM 1-3 YEARS	AFTER 3 YEARS
1	2,449	58%	31%	11%
2	3,399	47%	42%	11%
3	2,475	47%	38%	15%
4	1,282	46%	40%	14%
5	3,353	65%	26%	9%
6	1,359	44%	43%	13%
7	1,361	48%	30%	22%
8	2,339	51%	33%	16%
1981 Statewide	18,017	52%	35%	13%
1980 Statewide	17,717	50%	34%	16%

*In addition, there were 467 trusteeships and 3,707 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1981.

TABLE 7

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS FILED DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	DELINQ	CHINA	FINA	IC	TOTAL
1	397	187	26	-	610
2	367	308	6	-	681
3	554	197	6	2	759
4	295	168	-	6	469
5	553	281	19	11	864
6	532	229	-	1	762
7	419	289	11	-	719
8	403	296	6	1	706
1981 Statewide	3,520	1,955	74	21	5,570
1980 Statewide	3,634	1,839	49	39	5,501

Legend: DELINQ - Delinquency
CHINA - Child in need of assistance
FINA - Family in need of assistance
IC - Interstate compacts (extradition)
For definition of these terms, see section 232.2, The Code

TABLE 7

(b) NUMBER AND FORMAL HEARINGS IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1981
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	ADJUD.	DISP.	REV.	D/S	OTHER	TOTAL
1	516	416	414	102	247	1,695
2	312	572	334	114	481	1,813
3	540	386	537	80	216	1,759
4	307	236	213	133	52	941
5	446	825	406	166	61	1,904
6	461	683	672	340	875	3,031
7	348	567	268	312	216	1,711
8	258	400	393	121	429	1,601
1981 Statewide	3,188	4,085	3,237	1,368	2,577	14,455
1980 Statewide	3,284	3,944	3,015	1,545	2,031	14,819

Legend: Adjudication hearing - Section 232.2(2), The Code
Disp. - Disposition hearing - Section 232.2(16), The Code
Rev. - Review hearing - Section 232.102(6), The Code
D/S - Detention/Shelter hearing - Section 232.2(14)(46), The Code
Other - Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence, and contempt of court and probation violation hearings.

TABLE 7

(c) NUMBER OF JUVENILE HEARINGS HELD BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGE	ASSOCIATE JUDGE	JUVENILE REFEREE	TOTAL
1	87	1,189	417	1,693
2	506	1,176	136	1,818
3	9	-	1,750	1,759
4	10	959	-	969
5	927	211	766	1,904
6	61	1,717	1,266	3,044
7	101	1,256	354	1,711
8	6	644	951	1,601
1981 Statewide	1,707	7,152	5,640	14,499
1980 Statewide	1,972	6,845	5,002	13,819

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1981

DISTRICT		NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED	NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS		
			TRIAL DETERMINATION	REVIEW	TOTAL
1	V*	98	65	4	69
	I**	23	15	6	21
2	V	110	86	6	92
	I	56	37	1	38
3	V	91	68	5	73
	I	41	51	3	54
4	V	18	12	-	12
	I	46	24	1	25
5	V	50	49	-	49
	I	165	173	3	176
6	V	56	91	53	144
	I	57	9	13	22
7	V	94	57	16	73
	I	25	15	2	17
8	V	51	39	5	44
	I	24	20	9	29
1981 Statewide	V	568	467	89	556
	I	437	344	38	382
		1,005	811	127	938

*V - Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding
**I - Involuntary or contested termination proceeding

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1981
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	INVOLUNTARY MINOR	INVOLUNTARY ADULT	EMERGENCY	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	TOTAL
1	27	279	232	195	733
2	23	308	231	116	678
3	16	235	92	33	376
4	3	93	72	11	179
5	16	211	82	74	383
6	42	299	113	100	554
7	8	238	265	115	626
8	16	145	42	24	227
1981 Statewide	151	1,808	1,129	668	3,756
1980 Statewide	116	2,016	1,229	523	3,884

District judges handled five involuntary hospitalization of a minor hearings (sec. 229.2, The Code), 145 involuntary adult hearings (sec. 229.12), 168 emergency hearings, and 44 substance abuse hearings. District associate judges held 18, 2, 310, and 38 such hearings, respectively. Part-time magistrates conducted 326 emergency hospitalization hearings. Referees also held 128 involuntary minor, 1,661 involuntary adult, and 586 substance abuse hearings.

TABLE 10

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1981 CASELOAD PER DISTRICT JUDGE WITH RANK OF DISTRICT IN EACH CATEGORY SHOWN IN PARENTHESIS
(Adjusted to the nearest whole case or matter)

DISTRICT	JUDGES	REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES (Per Judge) DISPOSED OF[a]	PROBATE MATTERS (Per Judge) CLOSED[b]	JUVENILE MATTERS (Per Judge) HEARINGS[c]
1	12	766 (3)	243 (5)	7 (4)
2	16	658 (8)	258 (3)	30 (2)
3	10	749 (5)	295 (1)	1 (8)
4	6	923 (1)	251 (4)	1 (5)
5	20	886 (2)	226 (6)	46 (1)
6	11	699 (6)	148 (8)	6 (5)
7	10	752 (4)	175 (7)	10 (3)
8	10	665 (7)	280 (2)	1 (7)
1981 Statewide	95	761	234	18
1980 Statewide	92	764	237	21

a. Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district court judges as shown by Tables 2(b) and 3(b).
b. Includes trusteeships, guardianships, conservatorships, and estates closed in the district court.
c. Includes various types of juvenile hearings in cases involving delinquency, child and/or family assistance, and interstate compacts.

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES ON MATTERS OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND JUVENILE CASES, 1981

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	5	15,500	16,375	1,253
2	5	11,880	12,540	1,389
3	4	12,086	12,082	882
4	3	6,811	7,084	1,344
5	8	67,476	68,589	36,297
6	5	18,218	17,219	5,126
7	5	15,749	17,492	3,115
8	4	4,086	3,832	571
1981 Statewide	39	151,806	155,213	49,977
1980 Statewide	39	162,853	174,327	52,703

a. Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

NOTE: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see Tables 12(a) through 12(d), 14(d), and 9(b).

TABLE 12

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[a]

1981 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	5	986	-
2	5	1,118	46
3	4	1,322	1
4	3	-	-
5	8	4,359	440
6	5	3,210	17
7	5	3,168	5
8	4	584	-
1981 Statewide	39	14,747	509
1980 Statewide	39	14,263	1,022

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.
b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b) NONINDICTABLE - STATE CASES

1981 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	964	3,903	9	132	2,556	1,331	839
2	5	466	3,751	19	238	2,690	974	296
3	4	570	5,229	11	315	3,528	1,418	527
4	3	1,585	4,561	7	177	3,225	1,535	1,202
5	8	3,259	21,429	21	861	11,597	8,661	3,548
6	5	1,735	6,220	10	425	4,135	1,504	1,881
7	5	3,371	6,707	9	234	4,666	3,481	1,688
8	4	178	1,351	-	48	830	334	317
1981 Statewide	39	12,128	53,151	86	2,430	33,227	19,238	10,298
1980 Statewide	39	15,200	61,717	136	2,964	44,609	17,080	12,128

TABLE 12

(c) NONINDICTABLE - ORDINANCE CASES

1981 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	526	8,291	4	226	5,505	2,716	366
2	5	1,246	5,338	7	205	4,583	996	793
3	4	290	4,972	-	213	3,197	1,520	332
4	3	14	1,048	1	55	694	220	92
5	8	34,147	32,933	4	1,211	18,558	14,559	32,748
6	5	2,276	6,611	2	377	4,333	1,073	3,102
7	5	1,328	4,516	3	262	3,043	1,354	1,182
8	4	139	1,520	1	69	999	337	253
1981 Statewide	39	39,966[a]	65,229	22	2,618	40,912	22,775	38,868
1980 Statewide	39	48,368	68,865	45	2,654	45,272	29,369	39,893

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 12

(d) SMALL CLAIMS

1981 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	202	2,266	706	982	732	48
2	5	337	1,390	551	837	3	300
3	4	18	516	185	288	38	23
4	3	18	1,141	548	515	46	50
5	8	4	8,103	1,896	5,779	431	1
6	5	116	1,887	1,259	303	298	143
7	5	157	1,132	198	452	394	245
8	4	-	540	136	381	22	1
1981 Statewide	39	852[a]	16,975	5,479	9,573	1,964	811
1980 Statewide	39	609	15,295	5,218	7,919	2,085	682

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
DURING 1981 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	MAGISTRATES ACTUAL[a]	(AUTHORIZED)	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED[b]	DISPOSED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	23	(23)	5,938	41,490	42,921	4,507
2	34	(37)	2,815	36,484	36,625	2,674
3	26	(31)	1,289	19,250	18,955	1,584
4	16	(19)	1,818	14,168	14,816	1,170
5	19	(27)	2,893	21,082	21,362	2,613
6	14	(17)	798	17,828	17,449	1,177
7	13	(13)	1,391	12,376	12,342	1,425
8	21	(24)	1,224	18,877	18,632	1,469
1981 Statewide	166	(191)	18,166	181,555	183,102	16,619
1980 Statewide	166	(191)	14,809	191,707	189,651	16,865

a. The 1981 figures indicate the actual number of judicial magistrates serving in each district; figures in parenthesis show the number of magistrates positions authorized. See footnote a., Table 2(a) for counties using substitute district associate judges and Appendix E for the July 1, 1981 allocation of magistrates. The 1981 activity of substitute district associate judges is included in the workload of regular district associate judges as illustrated in Table 11, rather than the business of magistrates presented in this Table.
b. For purposes of this Table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, lost property actions, preliminary hearings, initial appearances, and emergency hospitalization hearings, docketed in 1981 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

TABLE 14

(a) INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1981 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	1,563	80
2	2,803	325
3	1,785	161
4	850	91
5	1,898	134
6	1,726	342
7	357	42
8	2,254	170
1981 Statewide	13,236	1,345
1980 Statewide	12,515	1,332

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.
b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b) NONINDICTABLE - STATE CASES

1981 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	1,553	14,073	25	1,114	9,893	3,099	1,495
2	1,413	18,524	35	2,227	12,917	3,437	1,321
3	970	10,680	10	996	7,233	2,091	1,320
4	671	8,365	7	601	5,777	2,077	574
5	2,262	13,364	20	1,372	8,893	3,185	2,156
6	430	8,409	20	1,068	5,219	1,736	796
7	653	4,623	9	375	3,624	657	611
8	832	9,218	20	719	6,601	1,691	1,019
1981 Statewide	8,784[a]	87,256	146	8,472	60,157	17,973	9,292
1980 Statewide	7,374	96,298	224	8,675	68,339	17,915	8,519

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c) NONINDICTABLE - ORDINANCE CASES

1981 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL GUILTY PLEA	WITHOUT TRIAL DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	4,355	24,550	5	1,053	17,234	7,638	2,975
2	304	7,395	4	693	6,021	711	270
3	206	4,844	4	506	3,695	658	187
4	1,119	4,162	2	357	3,269	1,077	576
5	560	4,881	-	685	2,594	1,740	422
6	239	5,640	6	653	4,349	647	224
7	641	5,004	6	380	4,051	628	580
8	317	5,324	9	440	3,868	934	390
1981 Statewide	7,741[a]	61,800	36	4,767	45,081	14,033	5,624
1980 Statewide	6,409	65,157	60	4,901	47,406	11,604	7,595

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(d) SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS DURING 1981 BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL	SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS DJ	DAJ	JM	TOTAL
1	29	52	76	157	-	393	229	622
2	4	127	188	319	-	21	56	77
3	3	37	146	186	-	-	224	224
4	-	24	83	107	-	22	40	62
5	61	179	86	326	-	4	20	24
6	6	50	36	92	-	211	16	227
7	8	54	11	73	-	2	11	13
8	7	29	187	223	-	60	48	108
1981 Statewide	118	552	813	1,483	-	713	644	1,357
1980 Statewide	118	564	929	1,611	20	694	559	1,273

Legend: DJ - District court judges
DAJ - District associate judges (including substitutes and alternates)
JM - Judicial magistrates

*There were also twelve lost property actions - one in the First, Third and Fourth, two in the Eighth, three in the Sixth, and four in the Fifth Judicial District - under Chapter 644, The Code, handled by magistrates during 1981.

TABLE 14

(e) SMALL CLAIMS

1981 ACTIVITY OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY			PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
				DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	30	919	566	223	123	37
2	1,098	7,193	2,220	4,771	217	1,083
3	113	1,410	756	466	224	77
4	28	577	382	177	26	20
5	71	699	474	175	86	35
6	129	1,659	522	786	323	157
7	97	2,328	1,421	456	314	234
8	75	1,676	890	659	142	60
1981 Statewide	1,641[a]	16,461	7,231	7,713	1,455	1,703
1980 Statewide	1,026	14,584	6,838	5,518	2,503	751

a. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1981
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1980

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY		PENDING DECEMBER 31
			CLERK	JUDICIAL OFFICERS[a]	
1	2,084	10,121	7,102	3,363	1,740
2	1,870	11,358	8,325	3,044	1,859
3	1,290	8,178	6,418	1,913	1,137
4	610	3,893	2,327	1,682	494
5	3,765	18,471	9,204	8,435	4,597
6	1,112	7,972	4,847	2,970	1,267
7	843	7,640	4,897	2,476	1,110
8	1,297	7,626	5,463	2,229	1,231
1981 Statewide	12,871	75,259	48,583	26,112	13,435
1980 Statewide	12,587	82,208	51,750	30,081	12,964

a. Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]

Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	Number 1981	Number 1980	County	Number 1981	Number 1980
Adair	1,277	1,268	Hamilton	6,416	7,367
Adams	850	609	Hancock	1,183	1,329
Allamakee	1,443	1,353	Hardin	3,223	2,487
Appanoose	1,678	1,593	Harrison	2,969	5,239
Audubon	1,593	925	Henry	2,852	3,495
Benton	3,901	4,731	Howard	691	908
Black Hawk	16,224	17,408	Humboldt	774	847
Boone	3,008	2,989	Ida	1,123	1,459
Bremer	3,029	4,128	Iowa	3,556	4,679
Buchanan	4,881	5,552	Jackson	2,560	2,244
Buena Vista	2,781	2,901	Jasper	6,204	6,150
Butler	2,305	2,297	Jefferson	1,758	2,419
Calhoun	950	887	Johnson	11,806	14,263
Carroll	4,323	4,836	Jones	1,718	1,589
Cass	2,769	2,303	Keokuk	483	516
Cedar	15,922	15,494	Kossuth	1,517	1,727
Cerro Gordo	8,353	9,476	Lee	5,068	4,789
Cherokee	1,464	2,075	Linn	18,353	19,483
Chickasaw	2,662	2,348	Louisa	1,435	1,469
Clarke	6,054	7,816	Lucas	1,288	1,268
Clay	2,939	3,422	Lyon	797	725
Clayton	2,703	3,267	Madison	958	1,099
Clinton	4,677	6,933	Mahaska	2,582	2,554
Crawford	2,300	2,171	Marion	3,199	2,988
Dallas	6,034	4,826	Marshall	5,006	4,932
Davis	1,000	1,102	Mills	2,083	1,959
Decatur	2,476	3,303	Mitchell	1,064	1,155
Delaware	3,410	3,978	Monona	2,087	2,379
Des Moines	3,289	4,003	Monroe	1,324	1,313
Dickinson	2,497	2,553	Montogmery	1,527	1,541
Dubuque	6,396	5,144	Muscatine	3,717	3,407
Emmet	1,030	1,263	O'Brien	2,110	2,477
Fayette	5,170	5,023	Osceola	886	890
Floyd	2,147	2,925	Page	1,373	960
Franklin	3,899	4,282	Palo Alto	1,829	1,885
Fremont	1,667	1,941	Plymouth	3,197	3,699
Greene	1,092	767	Pocahontas	610	693
Grundy	1,223	1,540	Polk	109,712	104,979
Guthrie	477	579	Pottawattamie	22,693	26,891

TABLE 16 (Cont'd)

County	Number 1981	Number 1980	County	Number 1981	Number 1980
Poweshiek	3,001	4,523	Wapello	3,564	4,676
Ringgold	317	108	Warren	4,150	5,358
Sac	1,680	1,847	Washington	1,866	2,162
Scott	24,277	20,906	Wayne	1,235	1,154
Shelby	1,267	1,425	Webster	2,658	2,490
Sioux	2,418	2,365	Winnebago	537	628
Story	8,599	10,002	Winneshiek	1,777	1,986
Tama	2,778	2,738	Woodbury	19,181	16,390
Taylor	406	376	Worth	5,911	7,845
Union	2,075	1,664	Wright	760	698
Van Buren	472	553			
			TOTAL	470,553	490,158

a. Scheduled violations are defined in section 805.8, The Code.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1981

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	6,861	1,871 (27%)	3,353 (49%)	1,637 (24%)
2	8,129	1,811 (22%)	4,302 (53%)	2,016 (25%)
3	5,832	1,091 (19%)	3,171 (54%)	1,570 (27%)
4	3,325	778 (23%)	1,823 (55%)	724 (22%)
5	11,496	2,563 (22%)	6,543 (57%)	2,390 (21%)
6	5,417	1,153 (21%)	3,284 (61%)	980 (18%)
7	6,161	1,099 (18%)	3,185 (52%)	1,877 (30%)
8	5,428	1,152 (21%)	2,909 (54%)	1,367 (25%)
1981 Statewide	52,649[b]	11,518 (22%)	28,570 (54%)	12,561 (24%)
1980 Statewide	51,516	12,921 (26%)	28,586 (55%)	10,009 (19%)

a. Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.
b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1980 due to inventory corrections.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1981

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	1,953	874 (45%)	651 (33%)	428 (22%)
2	2,498	1,028 (41%)	1,064 (43%)	406 (16%)
3	2,287	643 (28%)	848 (37%)	796 (35%)
4	568	331 (58%)	154 (27%)	83 (15%)
5	3,057	1,232 (40%)	1,106 (36%)	719 (24%)
6	3,302	1,323 (40%)	1,225 (37%)	754 (23%)
7	2,465	879 (36%)	1,115 (45%)	471 (19%)
8	1,601	633 (40%)	708 (44%)	260 (16%)
1981 Statewide	17,731	6,943 (39%)	6,871 (39%)	3,917 (22%)
1980 Statewide	15,032	7,155 (47%)	5,352 (36%)	2,525 (17%)

a. Includes criminal cases above a simple misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

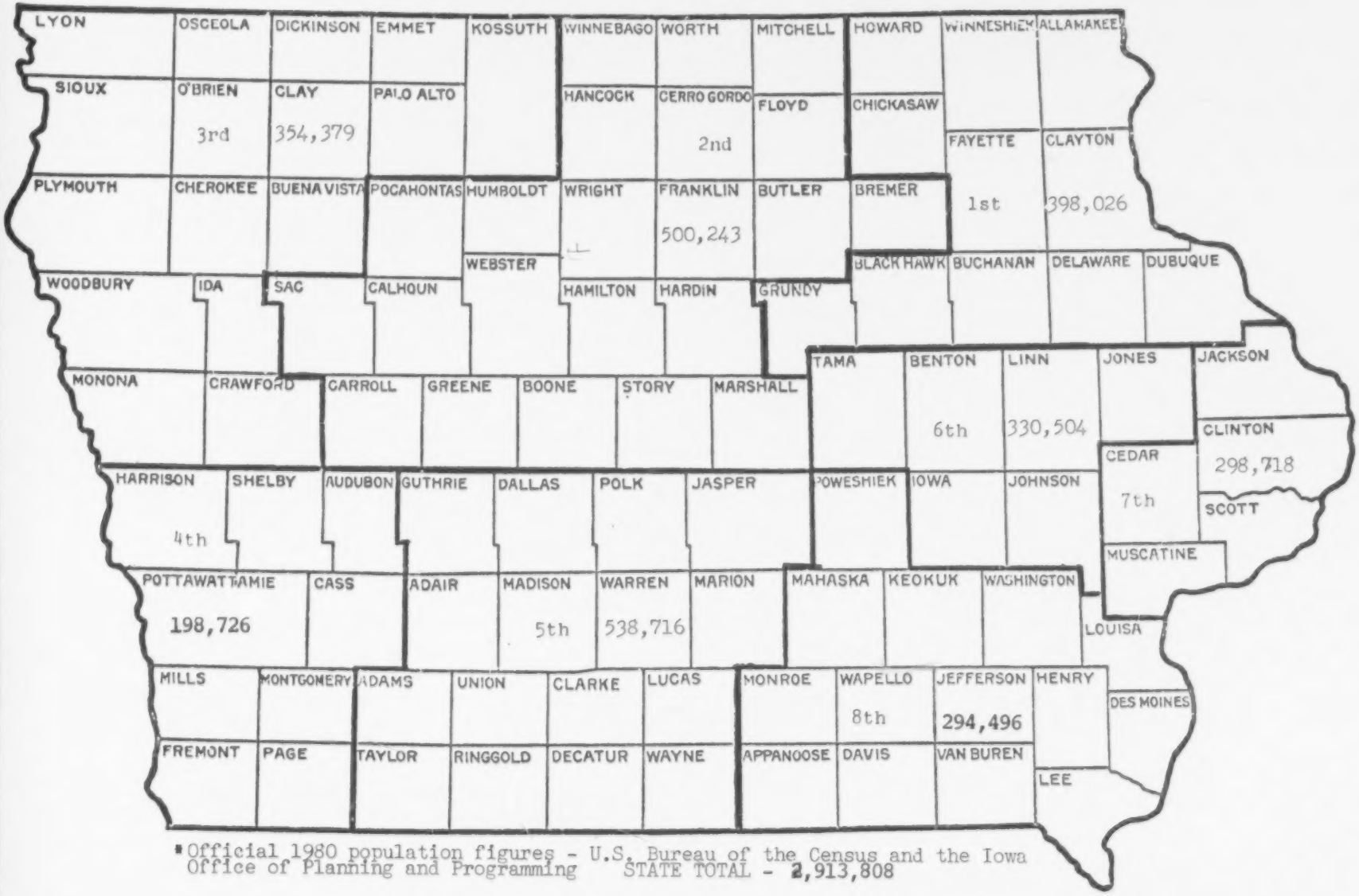
APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DISTRICT POPULATION[a]	POPULATION PER JUDGE
1	12	398,026	33,169
2	16	500,243	31,265
3	10	354,379	35,438
4	6	198,726	33,110
5	20	538,716	26,935
6	11	330,504	30,045
7	10	298,718	29,872
8	10	294,496	29,450
Statewide	95	2,913,808	30,671

a. Official 1980 population statistics - U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming.

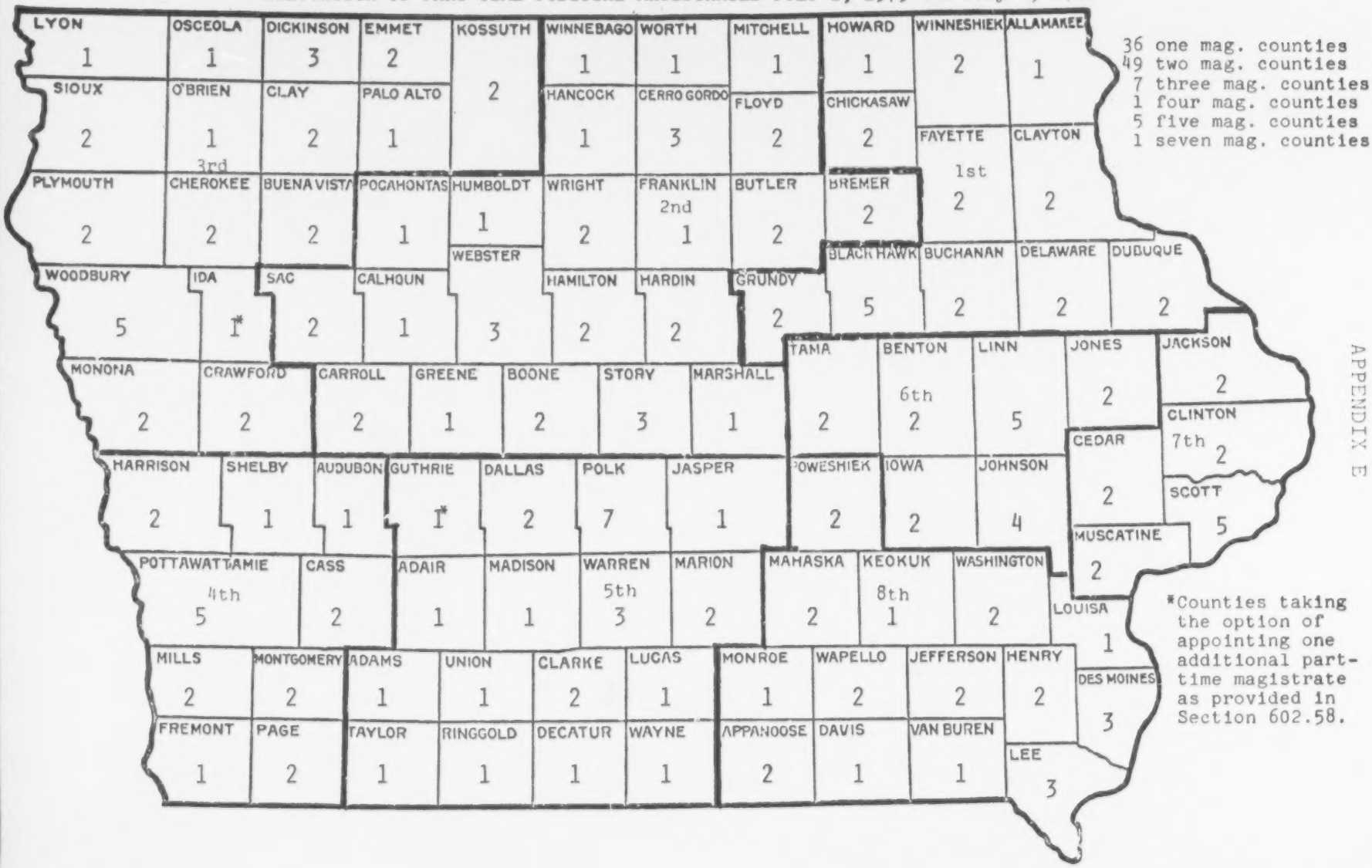
IOWA'S 8 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS - Population*



*Official 1980 population figures - U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Office of Planning and Programming STATE TOTAL - 2,913,808

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF PART-TIME JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1979 and July 1, 1981



36 one mag. counties
49 two mag. counties
7 three mag. counties
1 four mag. counties
5 five mag. counties
1 seven mag. counties

*Counties taking the option of appointing one additional part-time magistrate as provided in Section 602.58.

APPENDIX F

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT - 1956-1981

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL[b]	TOTAL (PER JUDGE)	JUVENILE[c]	PROBATE[d] OPENED
1981	95*	58,225	36,932	95,157 (1,002)	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111 (1,023)	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057 (892)	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440 (809)	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119 (784)	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112 (742)	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563 (733)	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869 (685)	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205 (653)	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182 (673)	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615 (679)	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105 (633)	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079 (593)	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984 (560)	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142 (515)	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469 (500)	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639 (489)	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409 (472)	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779 (464)	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641 (475)	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497 (473)	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027 (466)	2,012	17,248
1959	73	25,136	7,086	32,222 (441)	2,005	17,117
1958	72	23,661	6,724	30,385 (422)	1,937	16,694
1957	72	23,579	6,486	30,065 (418)	1,921	16,945
1956	70	22,922	6,178	29,100 (416)	1,607	16,137

* Pursuant to chapter 189, section 1, Acts of the 69th G.A., 1981 Session, effective October 1, 1981, the number of district judges was increased from 92 to 95.

a. Includes civil cases over $1,000 and small claims on appeal.

b. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.

c. Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters, e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance, and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights.

d. Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships, and conservatorships opened.

APPENDIX G

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

YEAR	SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS	SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS	SMALL CLAIMS
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974*	286,504	198,147	68,021

*This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.

APPENDIX H

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a] - 1956-1981

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	TOTAL	(PER JUDGE)
1981	95*	54,485	17,833	72,318	(761)
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	(764)
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	(683)
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	(614)
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	(607)
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	(619)
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	(603)
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	(594)
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	(612)
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	(680)
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	(646)
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	(591)
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	(544)
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	(501)
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	(482)
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	(494)
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	(492)
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	(467)
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	(479)
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	(481)
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	(509)
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	(429)
1959	73	23,988	6,949	30,937	(424)
1958	72	23,304	6,533	29,837	(414)
1957	72	23,302	6,932	30,234	(420)
1956	70	21,741	5,836	27,577	(394)

* See footnote on Appendix F

a. Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction.

b. Includes civil cases over $1,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court.

c. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.